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INFORMATION REPORT

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USSR

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SUBJECT

Use of Aero-Sleighs in the USSR

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1. Because so much Soviet territory is snowbound during the winter, the USSR has developed a vehicle known as the "Aero-Sani" (Aero-Sleighs). This vehicle is mounted on three very wide skis and is driven by a propeller at speeds up to about 135 kilometers per hour.
2. During World War II aero-sleighs were used extensively for transporting supplies across frozen lake Ladoga to the besieged city of Leningrad. Aero-sleighs were also used for evacuating the wounded from a combat area.
3. For a time during World War II some of the navigation schools, such as the Chelvabinsk Aviation School, the Melitopol Aviation School and others extended the period of navigation training to include a course in piloting these aero-sleighs.
4. After World War II, the aero-sleighs became standard equipment in the snow-bound northern regions of the USSR. There, they are used effectively for the transportation of mail, various sorts of supplies and even passengers.

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